

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 H-03 A-01 RSC-01 DRC-01

/027 W

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R 150540Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9497

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CHIEF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS/NAVY

CINCPAC

CDR JCRC NKP

CDR 432 TRW UDORN

COMUSSAG/7TH AF NKP

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 4764

DEPT FOR EA/LC - PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, LA

SUBJ: CODEL MONTGOMERY

REF: LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS/NAVY N04600 DTG R-132038Z

JUN 74

1. MISSION IS VERY PLEASED WITH FORTHCOMING VISIT OF CODEL MONTGOMERY AND BELIEVES TIMING TO BE MOST FORTUITOUS AS WE CONTINUE TO PURSUE POW/MIA ISSUE WITH OTHER SIDE. PROPOSE APPOINTMENTS WITH SOTH PHETRASY, MINISTER OF ECONOMY, AND COCHAIRMAN OF MIXED COMMISSION RESPONSIBLE FOR POW/MIA MATTERS; PERHAPS PHOUMI VONGVICHIT, DEPUTY PRIMIN, FONMIN AND SENIOR PL IN VIENTIANE AND LE VAN HIEN, DRV AMBASSADOR. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE MEETINGS WOULD PROVE MOST USEFUL AS A CONTINUING EXPRESSION
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OF CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN ABOUT POW/MIA.

2. RESERVATIONS FOR CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY HAVE BEEN MADE AT THE LANG XANG HOTEL FOR JULY 4 AND 5. HOWEVER, CHARGE CHAPMAN WOULD BE HAPPY HAVE CONGRESSMAN STAY WITH HIM AT HIS HOME IF HE DESIRES. (AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE WILL HAVE ONLY RETURNED TO VIENTIANE A DAY BEFORE.)

3. THE 1973 LAO ACCORDS PROHIBIT THE ENTRY OF FOREIGN MILITARY PERSONNEL INTO LAOS EXCEPT THOSE ON EMBASSY LISTS RECOGNIZED BY THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION. UNLESS CONGRESSMAN CONSIDERS VISIT OF CAPTAIN KNEALE IMPORTANT, IT PRUDENT KNEALE NOT ENTER LAOS. GIVEN PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT POLITICAL SITUATION, WE ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF MIL AIR SAIGON WOULD FLY CONGRESSMAN FROM SAIGON TO UDORN WHERE HE COULD BE PICKED UP BY AIR ATTACHE AND CONTROL OFFICER. ACCORDING TO THIS SCHEDULE, HE SHOULD ARRIVE UDORN AT 0930 HOURS AT WATTAY (VIENTIANE) 1000 HOURS JULY 4. TRANSPORTATION TO NKP ON JULY 6 WILL BE VIA DAO AIRCRAFT ARRIVING NKP 0930 HOURS.

4. CODEL MONTGOMERY IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN TRADITIONAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY FAMILY JULY 4 CELEBRATION SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL. OFFICIAL RECEPTION WILL BE HELD AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN THE EVENING, TO WHICH CODEL ALSO INVITED.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY DEPT. RESPONSE ADVISING OF DESIRES FOR APPOINTMENT WITH COMMUNIST REPS AND WHETHER HE WANTS HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AS HE DID DURING VISIT IN 1971.

6. EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER IS COLONEL EDWARD J. VAUGHN, USA. OFFICE TELEPHONE: 7135; HOME 6687. CHAPMAN

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